

**DESCRIPTIVE ABSTRACT**

**Use of particular fatty substances which make it  
possible to modify the physicochemical properties of  
the skin and/or the mucous membranes as agents  
preventing or reducing the adhesion of microorganisms  
to the latter**

The present invention relates to the use, as active ingredient, in a cosmetic composition or for the preparation of a pharmaceutical composition, of an effective quantity of at least one fatty substance free of carbohydrate units, having a melting point of less than 35°C and having an interfacial tension of between 6 and 27 mN/m, modifying the physicochemical properties of the surface of the skin and/or of the mucous membranes so as to prevent or reduce the adhesion of microorganisms to the latter.

09262520 - 624452